

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 02788 221448Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SS-15 /028 W
-----078239 221450Z /45
P 221420Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2674

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 2788

EA ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, PGOV, AS, NZ
SUBJECT: MEAT IMPORT QUOTAS

PLEASE SIGN OFF AND SEND TO THE WHITE HOUSE THE FOLLOWING
MEMORANDUM:

MEMORANDUM

TO: MR. DENIS CLIFT
ASSISTANT TO THE VICE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

FROM: ERLAND H. HEGINBOTHAM
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: MEAT IMPORT QUOTAS FOR AUSTRALIA
AND NEW ZEALAND

THE VICE PRESIDENT ASKED ME TO GIVE HIM A
MEMO ON WHETHER CURRENT MEAT IMPORT QUOTAS FOR
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND REFLECT PREFERENTIAL
LEVELS ACCORDED THEM FOR THEIR SUPPORT DURING
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THE VIETNAM WAR OR SOME RELATED CONSIDERATION.

THE ANSWER IS THAT THEY DO NOT. THE CURRENT
"QUOTAS" (ACTUALLY ALLOCATIONS UNDER VOLUNTARY
EXPORT RESTRAINT PROGRAM IN LIEU OF QUOTAS) ARE
BASED ON MARKET SHARES OF US MEAT IMPORTS IN 1973
AND 1974, A PERIOD WHEN QUOTAS WERE NOT IMPOSED.

THUS, IF THERE WERE ANY PREVIOUS PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT ACCORDED AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, IT HAS BEEN ELIMINATED.

WE DID NOT RESOLVE THE QUESTION OF WHETHER AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ACTUALLY RECEIVED FAVORED TREATMENT PRIOR TO 1973. THE MEAT IMPORT LAW WAS ENACTED IN 1964, BUT MEAT IMPORTS FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS REMAINED BELOW THE TRIGGER POINT FOR IMPOSING QUOTAS. WHEN IMPORTS APPROACHED THE TRIGGER POINT IN 1968 THE U.S. NEGOTIATED VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT AGREEMENTS WITH AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, THE TWO LARGEST SUPPLIERS, AND ASKED OTHER SUPPLIERS TO LIMIT THEIR EXPORTS TO THOSE ALREADY SCHEDULED.

ALLOCATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY EXPORT RESTRAINT PROGRAMS IN 1969-1972 WERE BASED ON 1968 MARKET SHARES. IF 1968 ARRANGEMENTS FAVORED AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, IT WOULD HAVE INFLUENCED THEIR ALLOCATIONS FOR 1969-1972. HOWEVER, A USDA OFFICIAL WITH THE PROGRAM SINCE 1969 SAID SHE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY PREFERENCES ACCORDED THE TWO COUNTRIES DURING THAT PERIOD. BASED ON A LIMITED REVIEW OF THE FILES SHE THOUGHT THEY MAY ACTUALLY HAVE BEEN DISADVANTAGED BY AGREEING TO RESTRAINT LEVELS IN THE 1968 BASE YEAR.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEAT IMPORT QUOTAS PLEASE SIGN OFF AND SEND TO THE WHITE HOUSE THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM
TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, PGOV, AS, NZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e2a90799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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